

Richland Online



Richland County and The Business Service Center



BUSINESS RULES & ONLINE TOOLS WORKSHOP

Speaker Overview

- Pam Davis, Director of the Richland County Business Service Center
- With Richland County since 1999:
 - five years in Administration
 - one year in Information Technology
 - three years in the Business Service Center
- Topic: an overview of local business requirements, and online resources for more information



BUSINESS RULES & ONLINE TOOLS WORKSHOP

Local Fees and Taxes

- Cities and counties across SC have different fees and taxes that may be charged.
- Please check with the government whose jurisdiction you are located in or in which you conduct business to learn which fees/taxes they charge
- Or, go to www.rcgov.us/bsc and click on “Information Guides” from the list on the right.
- Some of the most common fees and taxes will be identified on the following pages. (Contact the local government for more information.)



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Fees and Taxes

- Local Accommodations Tax – tax on overnight stays
 - known as a Tourism Development Fee, *different* from the State's Accommodations Tax
 - Rate can vary (3% of gross income in Richland County)
 - A tax on transient accommodations (hotels, campgrounds, Bed & Breakfasts, etc.)
- Hospitality Tax – tax on prepared or modified foods and beverages
 - Used to promote local tourism, grant \$\$ are available
 - 2% in Richland County, 1% in Towns of Irmo and Eastover
 - Includes restaurants, bars, convenience stores, etc.



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Fees and Taxes

- Local Option Sales Taxes – 1% additional sales tax by counties to meet different needs
 - Capital Projects
 - Property Tax Relief
 - Transportation
 - Education Capital Improvements
 - Other



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Fees and Taxes

- Business Personal Property Taxes
 - A tax on the fixture, furniture, and/or equipment owned by the business at each location
 - Must file annually with the local Auditor's Office or the State Department of Revenue
- Business Registration Fee
 - A flat fee required by Aiken and Williamsburg Counties to register businesses



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Fees and Taxes

- Business Licenses
 - Represents a government's "seal of approval" – given only after all other requirements have been met and all fees/taxes have been paid
 - Who: businesses *located in* or *doing business in* unincorporated Richland County
 - Deadline: March 15 every year
 - Penalties: 5% per month, or portion of month, not compounded
 - Time frame: all licenses expire December 31



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Fees and Taxes

- Franchise Fees
- Front Foot Assessments for Sewer
- Impact Fees
- Negotiated Development Exactions
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
- Special Tax Districts (Fire, Recreation, Roads, Sewer, Water, Other)



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User Fees

- Advertising Fees
- Airplane Fuel, Landing, Hangar
- Ambulance & Convalescent Transportation
- Criminal Records Checks
- Hazardous Materials
- Land Records Fees
- Mobile Home Moving Fees



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Regulatory/Enforcement Fees

- Alarm Permits
- Bingo Licenses
- Building Inspections/Permits
- Code Enforcement Fees
- Construction Permits
- Contractor Licenses
- Demolition Permits
- Erosion Control, Grading Permits
- Fireworks Permits
- Floodplain Permits
- HVAC, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing Permits
- Landfill Permits
- Planning/Development Fees
- Sign Permits
- Zoning Fees



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Some Richland County Requirements

- FINE PRINT: *not* intended to be a complete list (see the Code of Ordinances at www.rcgov.us and click on Ordinances from the list on left)
- Construction, new or existing: “if you build it, they will come” (building inspectors and others)
- Hazardous Materials : if you have it
- Real Estate Property Taxes: if you own it
- Business Personal Property Taxes: if you own it



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Richland County requirements

- Precious Metals Permits: if you buy precious metals or stones from the public – pawn shops, jewelry stores
- Tourism Development Fees: if you lease temporary accommodations – hotels, campgrounds, B&B, etc.
- Hospitality Taxes: if you sell prepared/modified foods or beverages – bars, employee cafeterias, conv. stores, etc.
- Peddlers Licenses: if you sell goods from place to place in public – flea markets, roadsides, various shops, etc.
- Solicitation Permits: if you ask for donations on County rights-of-way



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Richland County requirements

- Sexually Oriented Businesses: they are *not* prohibited, but *are* regulated
- Zoning: considers where the business is located and the type of business conducted
- Home Occupancy: various home-based businesses (even Internet businesses) are allowed, but are regulated
- Pyrotechnics Licenses: fireworks permits



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Richland County Dep'ts

- Auditor's Office – Business Personal Property Taxes
- Building Permits Department – building inspections
- Business Service Center – Business Licenses, Hospitality Taxes (administration), Peddlers Licenses, etc.
- Clerk of Court's office – Pyrotechnics Licenses
- Emergency Services Department – Hazardous Materials Permits, Fire Marshal inspections
- Planning Department – Zoning, Home Occupancy, Land Use
- Sheriff's Department – Precious Metals Permits
- Treasurer's Office – Property Taxes, Hospitality Taxes (collections)



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Online Resources

- Richland County Government: www.rcgov.us
 - Code of Ordinances (“Ordinances” on left)
 - Pay taxes online
 - Extensive GIS and mapping capabilities
 - Departments
 - Elected Officials
 - Much, much more



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Richland County:

www.rcgov.us

January 16, 2009

- Citizen Service Request
- County Council
- Boards & Committees
- Elected Officials
- County Holidays
- GIS & Mapping
- Procurement
- Forms
- Ordinances
- Employment
- Online Services ▶
- Top 10 Pages
- Departments ▶
- Education ▶
- Tourism ▶
- Links
- Meetings
- News/Press Releases
- Emergency Preparedness

You've Come To The Right Place



Visitor



Resident



Business

Announcement.....

Richland County
Offices will be closed
on Monday, January
19, 2009 in
observance of the
Martin Luther King,
Jr. Holiday.



Offices will reopen
on Tuesday, January
20, 2009 with normal
operating hours of
8:30am-5:00pm.



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Waste & Recycling](#)

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County RSS



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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 2009

COLUMBIA, SC

Online Resources

- Business Service Center: www.rcgov.us/bsc
 - Richland County Business Handbook (!)
 - Dept. of Revenue Small Business Tax Guide (!)
 - “Doing Business in South Carolina” Legal Guide (!)
 - Pay Online! (save \$10 on business licenses)
 - BSC forms
 - Licensed businesses
 - Hospitality Tax voucher forms
 - Resources and Links



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Business Service Center:

www.rcgov.us/bsc



Welcome to the Richland County
Online Business Service Center!

Announcements

Richland County Business Handbook:

The Business Service Center has developed a [Business Handbook](#) which describes the County's various requirements to do business in Richland County.

Business Educational Workshop: "Business Rules & Online Tools"

The South Carolina Business One Stop and Richland County Business Service Center are hosting a local workshop for anyone considering starting a business, expanding a current business, or just doing business, to meet and work with local, state, and federal government agencies.

This workshop will highlight information applicable to all small and medium businesses. Specialty sessions will be held to focus on business information for Richland County. Informational booths will be open throughout the day. The workshop will be held at the State Museum in Columbia on Friday, February 6th from 8 am – 5 pm.

Registration is online and available at http://www.showclix.com/shows_listing3.php?event=1038. The workshop is \$10 and includes lunch.

This workshop will bring together multiple state and local agencies, along with federal officials, to showcase current hot topics for those wanting to start a business, or currently in business and wanting to know more about what regulations impact their industry.

[County Codes](#)

[Forms](#)

[Hospitality Tax](#)

[Calendar Of Important Dates](#)

[Current Licensed Business](#)

[Find Your Business Location](#)

[Find your NAICS code](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Glossary](#)

[Information Guides](#)

[Resources And Links](#)

[Online Renewal Form](#)

[Deduction Calculator](#)

[Home](#)

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 2009

COLUMBIA, SC

Contact Information

- Who: Business Service Center
- Phone: 803-576-2287
- Fax: 803-576-2289
- E-mail: bsc@rcgov.us
- Website: www.rcgov.us/bsc
- Location: 2020 Hampton St., Suite 1050
- Best method to contact: E-mail



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